

Hebron, New Hampshire

Annual Report



OF THE TOWN OF

GROTON

NEW HAMPSHIRE

1952



Annual Reports
of the
Selectmen, Clerk, Treasurer,
Road Agents, School Board and
Other Officials
of the
Town of Groton
for the
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1952

The Colby Press, Rumney Depot, N. H.

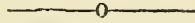
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Town Officers for 1952



Moderator	Agnes A. Lane
Town Clerk	Ileene A. Matthews
Selectmen	Frederick I. Taylor, Edgar C. McClellan Walter S. Stevens
Road Agent, South End	Perley Matthews
Road Agent, North End	Fred Waldron
Snow Removal	Ernest E. Matthews
Treasurer	Ileene A. Matthews
Tax Collector	Annie M. Esty
Land Agents	Selectmen
Librarian	Agnes A. Lane
Police	F. I. Taylor
Overseer of Poor	Edythe M. Newton
Health Officer	Frederick I. Taylor
Auditors	Flora Matthews, Velma Watts
School Board	Yvonne Stevens, Annie M. Esty Flora Matthews
School District Clerk and Treasurer	Ileene Matthews
Trustee of Trust Funds	Frederick I. Taylor
Library Trustees	Flora Matthews, Violet G. Parris, Ileene A. Matthews
Surveyors of Wood, Lumber, Bark and Fence Viewers:	Lucien Parris, L. McClellan
Janitor	Floyd H. Colby
Constable	Floyd H. Colby
Fire Warden	Ernest E. Matthews
Deputy Wardens	Floyd H. Colby, Carroll G. Matthews, Edgar J. Albert

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

To the inhabitants of the Town of Groton in the County of Grafton in said State, qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at The Town House in said Groton on Tuesday, the tenth day of March, next at nine of the clock in the forenoon to act upon the following subjects:

1. To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.

2. To raise such sums of money as may be necessary to defray town charges for the ensuing year and make appropriations of the same.

3. To see if the Town will vote to give a discount for prompt payment of taxes.

4. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to borrow money in anticipation of taxes.

5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50 to the Newfound Region Chamber of Commerce for the purpose of publicizing and promoting the natural advantages and resources of the Town, in cooperation with other towns in the Newfound Region.

6. To see what action the Town will take in regard to the request of the Forestry Department that \$200 be appropriated for the work of blister Rust Control.

7. To see what action the Town will take in regard to the solicitation of support received from the Sceva Speare Memorial Hospital, Plymouth.

8. To see if the Town will vote to allow the Collector of Taxes additional compensation for her services in collecting the State Head Tax and to fix the amount thereof.

9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to carry on the improvements at the North Cove area at Spectacle Pond.

10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$194.97 for Town Road Aid. the State to contribute \$1,299.77.

11. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum not exceeding \$20,000 for the purpose of constructing, reconstructing and surfacing the road from North Groton to Dorchester, commonly called the Cheever Road, which sum is to be added to by the State of New Hampshire in the amount of \$60,000.

12. To authorize the issuance of not exceeding \$20,000 in serial notes or bonds for the purpose of constructing, reconstructing and surfacing the Cheever Road, said serial notes or bonds to be issued under and in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 72 of the Revised Statutes and any amendments thereto or future revisions thereof, and to authorize the Selectmen to determine the time and place of payment and rate of interest on said serial notes or bonds, and to do whatever may be necessary to the issuance thereof.

13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the purpose of building a foundation at the proposed new location for the school and community building, and to make changes and additions to the building, install a water system, and whatever work may be proposed by the Building Committee within the limits of this appropriation.

14. To see if the Town will vote to appoint a Building Committee, composed of the three Selectmen and not more than two other members, to serve with a similar committee to be appointed by the School District, for the purpose of selecting the site for the proposed new location of the school and community building; to plan and supervise alterations and additions to said building; and to make regulations for use of said building after completion.

15. To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the highway leading in a northerly direction from the north end of the so-called Gulf Bridge over Sculptured Rocks.

16. To see if the Town will vote to use the entire amount of the principal and interest of the Fund for Post-War Project now deposited in Trust Funds, for the purpose of helping defray the cost of construction on the Cheever Road.

17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate sums of money sufficient for the remaining items in the budget as printed.

18. To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

Given under our hands and seal, this 21st day of February in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and fifty-three.

F. I. TAYLOR,
EDGAR C. McCLELLAN,
WALTER S. STEVENS,
Selectmen of Groton

A true copy of Warrant—Attest:

F. I. TAYLOR,
EDGAR C. McCLELLAN,
WALTER S. STEVENS
Selectmen of Groton

A REPORT BY YOUR SELECTMEN

To the Taxpayers, Voters, and Other Residents of
the Town of Groton:

Because the year of 1952 was a particularly active one in connection with the various activities of your Board of Selectmen, we felt it might be of interest to the voters under whose direction we serve, to have a written report of some of those activities, and also what plans we have in mind presenting for your action at the next Town Meeting.

It is our opinion that the proposed construction of the Cheever Road will be a project that will be of lasting benefit to the Town. The present road has been in bad shape for many years, is getting worse every year, and the repair and maintenance of the road summer and winter is a very costly item. The amount that has been spent for summer repairs in recent years has only been sufficient to keep the road in passable condition, and the point is rapidly approaching when something drastic would have to be done. Fortunately the road was put on the State Aid secondary system several years ago, and the State has now definitely scheduled a construction project for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1953. The amount of \$45,000 has been allotted by the State if the Town will raise \$15,000 this year. Approximately \$5,500 has been raised by the Town in past years for this project, and there is just over \$500 in Trust Funds which can be used for this purpose if the voters choose. This means that the Town would have to raise \$9,000 by a bond issue to complete the sum of 15,000 required. However, your Board has been informed by the State Highway Department that it is possible that they may be able to increase their allocation for this road to the extent of an

additional \$30,000 if the Town will raise \$10,000 additional. For this reason we have inserted an article in the Warrant seeking authority to borrow a total of \$20,000, which, with the cash we have in hand, will make up the total of \$25,000 required from the Town. While this does seem rather a large amount of money for a town of this size to raise, it must be kept in mind that it is only a small part of the total cost of this road, and after completion, the expense of maintenance will be borne by the State. Even if the road is started this fall it is possible that the bond issue will not be required until late this year and payment may be extended over twenty years.

Another item of absorbing interest in the past year has been the question of the status of the present school building and Town House. At the Town meeting in 1952 it was voted to appoint a committee to meet with an individual who had offered to repair or replace the Town House, and empowered that committee to make any arrangements were thought to be in the best interests of the Town. It was agreed to accept this offer, and since many persons had shown an interest in combining the school and town hall at a new location, this project was considered, approved by a majority of all interested parties and the necessary Town and School District action taken at Special Meetings. For reasons unknown to your Board, the project never proceeded beyond very preliminary plans, and is now considered abandoned. However it is the desire of most of the voters to see running water and flush toilets installed in the school building, and if we are to continue to use the present Town House quite extensive repairs must be made without further delay. Since these two projects would mean a considerable outlay of money, and since many voters have expressed a desire to proceed with a combination school building and

Town Hall at a new location, the necessary articles for completion of this project have been inserted in the Town Warrant, and the School Board has agreed to insert the necessary articles in the District Warrant. The School Board has available the sum of \$1,800 which was voted at the Special Meeting in 1952 for the purpose of moving the school building to a new location. This money has already been raised and it will be no further burden on the taxpayers if the move is accomplished as this money is now in the Town treasury. It was decided at a joint meeting of the Selectmen and School Board to request an appropriation from the District for the purchase of the necessary land, and from the Town, an amount sufficient to provide a suitable foundation, install a water system, and to proceed as far as funds would permit with the changes and additions to the building as planned by a building committee to be appointed by the Town and School District. The improvements to the school buildings are certainly to be desired, and the Town needs a centrally located building where a town office may be had for the proper storage of vital records, and meeting of various boards, some of which are required to be public meetings, and to afford a well heated place for town meetings, elections, and various other community meetings. Because of some unexpected income the Town has derived in the past few months from sale of real estate, it is felt that this project can be carried out with no increase in the tax rate, and your Board strongly recommends favorable action on these articles.

Mention has just been made of income from real estate sales, and in this connection your Board is very glad to report that all properties owned by the Town, with one or two minor exceptions, were disposed of since last fall. The sum of approximately \$ 3,000 was realized in 1952, and about \$ 2,000 this year to date. Some of these properties have been in the hands of the Town since 1934, producing no revenue since they were not on the tax rolls, and it would certainly seem to be to the best interests of the Town to have them in the hands of tax payers again. The increase of assessment because of these should amount to \$10 or 12,000 and increase in total assessment helps out with the tax rate.

At the Town Meeting in 1952 the voters authorized the purchase of a piece of motorized road equipment, and provided a bond issue to cover this purchase if necessary. \$5,000 was appropriated for this equipment, but it was found that this amount was not sufficient to purchase anything which was felt would be of real value to the Town, and since our needs were not too great in this connection, it was also felt that we should not spend more than the amount appropriated. After consultation with all interested parties, it was decided that a thorough overhaul of the present town truck, and the purchase of a new V-plow and electric lift would enable us to meet any conditions that might arise. This was done for a total of less than \$ 1,000, and the bills were paid from cash in the Town treasury, and it was not necessary to float a bond issue for this purpose.

The improvements which were carried out at Spectacle Pond under an appropriation of \$400 for that purpose apparently met a long felt need, and favorable comments were received from townspeople and strangers alike. A very substantial town dock

was built, a good start made on a bathing area, and through the kindness of Miss Brennan, a small picnic area was developed. Your Selectmen feel that it is desirable to do further work in this connection and an article has been inserted in the Warrant seeking the action of voters. It is hoped that at least \$300 can be raised for further work this spring, which should bring the developement to such a stage that only a small annual appropriation would be needed in future years to keep the area in good condition.

All in all, we feel that the Town affairs are in good condition, and that assessments and the tax rate reflect the true conditions. We ended the year of 1952 with substancial cash in the treasury and a good cash surplus. However, some of this surplus will have to be used if the voters are in favor of proceeding with the school and community building, and it must be remembered that our total assessment is low enough so that any considerable expenditure is reflected in the tax rate. For this reason your Board feels that it is their duty to proceed with caution and recommend only those projects which may be accomplished without increase in the tax rate.

F. I. TAYLOR,
E. C. McCLELLAN,
W. S. STEVENS,

Selectmen of Groton

1953 BUDGET

Estimates of Revenue and Expenditures for the En-
suing Year January 1, 1953 to December 31, 1953,
Compared with Actual Revenues, and Expenditures
of the previous Year January 1, to December 31, 1952

Source of Revenue	Actual Revenue 1952	Estimated Revenue 1953
From State:		
Savings Bank Tax	7.54	7.54
Reimbursement a/c State and Federal forest lands	35.88	32.60
Reimbursement a/c Exemption of Growing Wood and Timber	574.34	1,373.88
For Fighting Forest Fires	10.46	50.00
From Local Sources Except Taxes:		
Dog Licenses	34.80	34.80
Interest Received on Taxes	59.23	60.00
Highway Dept., Rentals	577.00	500.00
Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	270.47	200.00
Sale of Town Property	3,080.54	1,000.00
Cash Surplus	3,586.24	
From Local Sources Other Than Property Taxes:		
Poll Taxes	74.00	100.00
Total Revenue from all Sources		
Except Property Taxes	8,310.50	3,358.82
Amt. to be Raised by Prop. Tax		15,253.44
Total Revenue	\$	18,612.26

General Government:

Town Officers' Salaries	841.22	1,000.00
Town Officers' Expenses	256.76	400.00
Election and Registration Exp.	171.30	100.00
Expenses Town Buildings	46.00	100.00

Protection of Persons and Property:

Police Department		20.00
Fire Department	41.42	300.00
Moth Exter.—Blister Rust		200.00

Health:

Health Department, inc. Hospitals		125.00
Vital Statistics	4.50	5.00

Highways and Bridges:

Town Maintenance, Summer	2,537.04	2,000.00
Town Maintenance, Winter	2,037.78	1,750.00
Gen. Exp. of Highway Dept.	608.79	500.00
Town Road Aid	195.62	195.62

Library:	200.00	200.00
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Public Welfare:

Town Poor	156.10	50.00
Old Age Assistance	664.66	700.00

Recreation:

Parks and Playgrounds	352.82	300.00
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Unclassified:

Damages and Legal Expenses		50.00
Advertising and Regional Assn	50.00	50.00

Highways and Bridges:

State Aid Const., Town's share	2,328.00	
Lands and Buildings		3,000.00
New Equipment	874.00	

Payments to Other Governmental Divisions:

County Taxes	1,080.26	1,080.26
School Taxes	6,599.00	6,486.38
Total Expenditures	19,018.27	18,612.26

COMPARATIVE OF APPROPRIATIONS

Fiscal Year Ending

Title of Appropriation	Appropriation
	Total Available
Town Officers' Salaries	\$ 1,000 00
Town Officers' Expenses	600.00
Election and Registration	200.00
Town Hall Expense	100.00
Police Department	20.00
Fire Department	300.00
Health Department	25.00
Vital Statistics	5.00
Town Maintenance, Summer	2,000.00
Town Maintenance, Winter	1,750.00
Town Road Aid	195.62
General Expenses of Highway Department	300.00
Library	200.00
Town Poor	50.00
Old Age Assistance	700.00
Parks and Playgrounds	400.00
Damages and Legal Expense	50.00
Advertising and Regional Associations ..	50.00
State Aid Construction	2,328.00
New Lands and Buildings	200.00
New Equipment	1,000.00
County Tax	1,080.26
School Tax	6,599.00
Totals	\$ 19,152.88

STATEMENT

AND EXPENDITURES

December 31, 1952

		Balance	
Expenditures		Unexpended	Overdraft
\$ 841.22		158.78	
256.76		343.24	
171.30		28.70	
46.00		54.00	
		20.00	
41.42		258.58	
		25.00	
4.50		.50	
2,537.04			537.04
2,037.78			287.78
195.62			
608.79			308.79
200.00			
156.10			106.10
664.66		35.34	
352.82		47.18	
		50.00	
50.00			
2,328.00			
		200.00	
847.00		153.00	
1,080.26			
6,599.00			
<u>19,018.27</u>	\$	<u>1,374.32</u>	\$ <u>1,239.71</u>
Net Unexpended Balance over Overdrafts			\$ 134.61

APPROPRIATIONS AND TAXES ASSESSED

Town Officers' Salaries	\$ 1,000.00
Town Officers' Expenses	600.00
Election and Registration Expenses	200.00
Town Hall and Buildings Maintenance	100.00
Police Department	20.00
Fire Department	300.00
Health Department	25.00
Vital Statistics	5.00
State Aid Construction	2,328.00
Town Road Aid	195.62
Town Maintenance, Summer	2,000.00
Town Maintenance, Winter	1,750.00
General Expenses of Highway Department ..	300.00
New Buildings and Lands	200.00
New Equipment	1,000.00
Library	200.00
Old Age Assistance	700.00
Public Relief	50.00
Parks and Playgrounds	400.00
Cemeteries	30.00
Damages and Legal Expenses	50.00
Advertising and Regional Assns.	50.00
County Tax	1,080.26
School Tax	6,599.00

Total Town and School Appropriations \$ 19,182.88

Less Estimated Credits:

Savings Bank Tax	7.95	
Reimbursement a/c State and Federal Lands	32.60	
Reimbursment a/c Exemption of Growing Wood and Timber	1,511.27	
Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	200.00	
Dog Lienses	55.20	
Rent of Town Property	500.00	
Interest Received on Taxes	60.00	
Sale of Tax Deeded Property	500.00	
Cash Surplus	3,586.24	
		<hr/>
Total Revenue and Credits	6,453.26	
		<hr/>
	12,729.62	
Plus Overlay	480.70	
		<hr/>
Net Amount to be Raised by Taxation	13,210.32	
Less 54 Poll Taxes at \$2.00	108.00	
Amount to be Raised on which Tax Rate is Figured	\$ 13,102.32	

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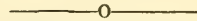
Taxes to be Committed to Collector:

Property Taxes	13,102.32	
Poll Taxes at \$2.00	108.00	
		<hr/>
Total Taxes to be Committed	\$ 13,210.32	
Tax Rate	3.30

SUMMARY INVENTORY

Lands and Buildings	\$ 189,860.00
Electric Plants	206,110.00
Horses, 11	1,180.00
Cows, 20	2,430.00
Other Neat Stock, 1	100.00
Sheep and Goats, 23	430.00
Hogs 5	150.00
Fowls, 460	510.00
Vehicles, 1	300.00
Boats and Launches, 9	200 00
Wood Lumber, etc., 8M	440.00
Gasoline Pumps and Tanks, 2	130.00
Stock in trade	1,000.00
Mills and Machinery	2 000.00
Total Valuation	\$ 404,840.00
Less Soldiers' Exemptions	7,800.00
Tax Rate is Computed	\$ 379,040.00

Number of Inventories distributed	145
Number of Inventories returned	87
Number of veterans who received exemption ..	10
Number of Veterans exempted from poll tax	8



CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the informtaion contained in this report was taken from official records and is complete to the best of our knowledge and belief.

F. I. TAYLOR,

E. C. McCLELLAN,

W. S. STEVENS,

Selectmen

ILEENE A. MATTHEWS,

Treasurer

Town of Groton	Assets
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Cash:	
In hands of Treasurer	\$ 9,514.65
Capital Reserve Funds:	
For Post War Project	586.38
Accounts due to Town:	
Due from State:	
Joint Highway Construction Account	17,998.50
Bounties	4.50
Loss of taxes on Public Forest Lands	35.88
Unredeemed Taxes:	
Levy of 1951	335.20
Levy of 1950	157.30
Uncollected Taxes:	
Levy of 1952	1,597.81
Levy of 1951	1.50
Previous years	16.64
State Head Taxes—Levy of 1952	105.00
Total Assets	<hr/> \$ 30,353.36
Net Surplus, December 31, 1951	6,024.96
Net Surplus, December 31, 1952	5,565.98
Decrease of Surplus	458.98

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Town of Groton	Liabilities
<hr/>	
Accounts Owed by Town:	
Due to State:	
State Head Taxes—1952, Uncollected	105.00
“ “ “ Collected, not remitted	132.00
Due School District, Bal. of appro.	1,800.00

State and Town Joint Highway Const. Accounts:

Unexpended balance in State Treasury	17,998.50
Unexpended balance in Town Treasury	4,165.50
Capital Reserve Funds	586.38
Total Liabilities	\$ 24,787.38
Excess of Assets over Liabilities (Surplus)	5,565.98
Grand Total	\$ 30,353.36

Town of Groton

Receipts

Current Revenue:

From Local Taxes.

Property Taxes—current year	\$ 11,434.84
Poll Taxes—current year, regular @\$2	74.00
Yield Taxes, 1952	718.12
State Head Taxes @\$5	185.00

Total Current Year's Taxes Collected 12,411.96

Property and Yield Taxes, Previous years	1,527.99
Poll Taxes, Previous years @ \$2	38.00
State Head Taxes @ \$5, 1951	75.00
Interest received on Taxes	59.23
Penalties on State Head Taxes	9.50
Tax sales redeemed	730.10

From State:

Plowing roads	577.00
Savings Bank Tax	7.54
Reimbursement a/c State and Fed. Forest land	32.60
“ a/c Exempt. Growing Wood	574.34
Fighting forest fires	10.46
Bounties	10.00

From Local Sources Except Taxes:

Dog Licenses	34.80
Rent of Town Property	14.00
Registration of motor vehicles, 1951 permits	1.00
“ “ “ 1952 permits	270.47

Receipts Other Than Current Revenue:

Refund	4.00
Sale of town property	3,080.54
Total Receipts from all Sources	\$ 19,468.53
Cash on hand January 1, 1952	5,667.24
Grand Total	\$ 25,135.77

Town of Groton	Payments
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CURRENT MAINTENANCE EXPENSES**General Government:**

Town Officers Salaries	\$ 841.22
Town Officers' Expenses	256.76
Election and Registration Expenses	171.30
Auto Permit Fees	35.50
Expenses Town Buildings	46.00

Protection of Persons and Property:

Fire Department	41.42
Bounties	4.50

Health:

Vital Statistics	3.50
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Highways and Bridges:

Town Road Aid	195.62
Town Maintenance, Summer	2,537.04
Town Maintenance, Winter	2,037.78
General Expense of Highway Department	608.79

Library:	
Library Maintenance	200.00
Public Welfare:	
Old Assistance	664.66
Town Poor	156.10
Recreation:	
Parks and Playgrounds	352.82
Public Service Enterprises:	
Cemeteries	6.00
Unclassified:	
Advertising and Regional Associations	50.00
Taxes bought by Town	312.47
Outlay for New Equipment:	
New Highway Equipment	847.00
Payments to Other Governmental Divisions:	
State Head Taxes paid to State Treas.	373.38
Taxes paid to County	1,080.26
Payments to School District	4,799.00
Total Payments for all Purposes	\$ 15,621.12
Cash on Hand December 31, 1952	9,514.65
Grand Total	\$ 25,135.77

SCHEDULE OF TOWN PROPERTY

Town Hall, Land and Buildings	\$ 1,200.00
Furniture and Equipment	200.00
Library, Land and Equipment	1,000.00
Furniture and Equipment	1,500.00
Fire Department Equipment	100.00
Highway Department, Land and Buildings	1,000.00
Equipment	4,500.00
School Land and Buildings	2,200.00
Equipment	1,000.00
Tax Acquired Property	5,824.00
Total	\$ 18,524.00

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

• Auto permit fees collected	\$	271.47
Dog taxes collected	\$	38.00
Less clerk's fees		3.20
		<hr/> 34.80

Paid to the Treasurer 306.27

Respectfully submitted,

ILEENE A. MATTHEWS, Town Clerk.

No fires were reported for the year 1952.

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TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Summary of Warrant—Levy of 1952

Debits

Taxes Committed to Collector:

Property Taxes	\$	13,102.32
Poll Taxes		108.00
Total Warrant		<hr/> 13,210.32
Yield Tax		936.93
Interest		.08
Total Debits		<hr/> 14,147.33

Credits

Remittances to Treasurer

Property Taxes	11,434.84
Poll Taxes	74.00
Yield Taxes	718.12
Interest	.08
Discount	302.93
Abatements	19.55

Uncollected Taxes:

Property Taxes	1,353.00
Poll Taxes	26.00
Yield Taxes	218.81
Total Credits	<hr/> 14,147.33

Summary of Warrant—Levy of 1951

Debits

Uncollected Taxes as of January 1, 1952:	
Property Taxes	1,420.50
Poll Taxes	42.00
Yield Taxes	105.13
Interest	58.33
Total Debits	1,625.96

Credits

Remittances to Treasurer:	
Property Taxes	1,419.00
Poll Taxes	38.00
Abatements	4.00
Interest	58.33
Yield Taxes	105.13
Uncollected Taxes:	
Property Tax	1.50
Total Credits	1,625.96

Summary of Warrant—Levy of 1950

Debits

Uncollected Taxes as of January 1, 1952	
Poll Tax	2.00
Total Debits	2.00

Credits

Abatement	2.00
Total Credits	2.00

Summary of Warrant—Levy of 1949

Debits

Uncollected Taxes as of January 1, 1952:	
Property Taxes	5.10
Poll Taxes	4.00
Total Debits	9.10

Credits

Abatement	3.00
Uncollected Taxes	6.10
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Total Credits	9.10

Summary of Warrant—Levy of 1948**Debits**

Uncollected Taxes as of January 1, 1952:	
Property Tax	5.92
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Total Debits	5.92

Credits

Collected	3.86
Uncollected Taxes	2.06
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Total Credits	5.92

Summary of Warrant—Levy of 1947**Debits**

Uncollected Taxes as of January 1, 1952:	
Poll Tax	2.00
	<hr/>
Total Debits	2.00

Credits

Uncollected Taxes	2.00
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Total Credits	2.00

Summary of Warrant—Levy of 1946

Debits

Uncollected Taxes as of January 1, 1952:

Property Taxes	4.80
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Total Debits	4.80
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Credits

Uncollected Taxes	4.80
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Total Credit	4.80
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Summary of Warrant—Levy of 1944**Debits**

Uncollected Taxes as of January 1, 1952:

Property Tax	1.68
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Total Debits	1.68
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Credits

Uncollected Taxes	1.68
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Total Credits	1.68
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State Head Tax**Summary of Warrant—Levy of 1952****Debits**

State Head Taxes Committed to Collector:

Original Warrant	\$ 290.00
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Penalties	2.00
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Total Debits	292.00
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Credits

Remittances to Treasurer	185.00
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Penalties	2.00
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Uncollected	105.00
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Total Credits	292.00
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State Head Tax

Summary of Warrant—Levy of 1951

Debits

Uncollected Taxes as of January 1, 1952	95.00
Penalties	7.50
Total Debits	102.50

Credits

Remittances to Treasurer	75.00
Penalties	7.50
Abatements	20.00
Total Credits	102.50

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Summary of Tax Sales Accounts December 31, 1952

Debits

Tax Sale Account of Levy of:

	1951	1950	1949
Balance of Unredeemed Taxes, January 1, 1953	377.27		
Balance of Unredeemed Taxes, January 1, 1952		382.79	416.95
Interest Collected	.65	8.68	61.81
Total Debits	377.92	391.47	478.76

Credits

Remittances to Treasurer	34.09	225.71	470.30
Deeds	8.63	8.46	8.46
Unredeemed Taxes	335.20	157.30	
Total Credits	377.92	391.47	478.76

ANNIE M. ESTY, Collector of Taxes

TREASURER'S REPORT

Receipts

1948 Interest	.82
Annie M. Esty, Collector:	
1948 Property Tax	\$ 3.86
1951 Property Tax	1,121.40
1951 Polls	38.00
1951 Interest	43.46
1952 Property Tax	11,434.84
1952 Polls	74.00
1952 Interest	.08
Taxes redeemed	730.10
Taxes bought by Town	297.60
Interest	14.87
Head Tax	269.50
Yield Tax	823.25
State of New Hampshire:	
Plowing roads	577.00
State share of forest fire prevention	10.46
Savings Bank Tax	7.54
Bounty on two bear	10.00
Loss of tax on State owned lands	32.60
Reimbursement a/c 1952 tax yield loss	574.34
Royalties	105.54
Leonard Simpson, plowing drive	2.00
Harold Hamblett, rent of equipment	12.00
Lawrence Bowles, refund	4.00
Hamlin Andrus, purchase Dodge Place	25.00
Zoe Place, purchase Prescott Place	100.00
Louis Hall, sale of land	40.00
James Cripps, sale of land	10.00

Edward and Lewis Albert, mining rights	
Butterfield Place	50.00
J. Emery Dow, sale of land	1,100.00
Teres.. Tarr, purchase Baker and Mills Place	250.00
Wm. and W. B. Wadsworth, sale of land	800.00
Alan Esty, purchase McClure Place	420.00
Donald Esty, purchase Ford Place	180.00
Town Clerk, Auto permit fees	271.47
Town Clerk, Dog tax	34.80
	<hr/>
Total	19,468.53
Cash on hand, January 1, 1952	5,667.24
	<hr/>
Total	25,135.77

Payments

Selectmen's orders paid	15,621.21
	<hr/>
Balance	9,514.65

Respectfully submitted,

ILEENE A. MATTHEWS,

Treasurer

DETAILED STATEMENT OF PAYMENTS

Town Officers Salaries:

Violet Parris, Auditor	\$ 18.45
Flora Matthews, Auditor	18.45
Ileene Matthews, balance 1951 clerk and Treasurer	10.00
Annie M. Esty, Tax Collector	225.32
Floyd H. Colby, Selectman	9.90
Agnes A. Lane, Moderator 1951	5.40
Agnes A. Lane, Moderator 1952	18.70
Elthe M. Newton, Overseer of Poor	25.00
F. I. Taylor, Selectman	200.00
W. S. Stevens, Selectman	100.00
E. C. McClellan, Selectman	100.00
Ileene Matthews, Clerk and Treasurer	110.00
	841.22

Town Officers' Expenses:

Ileene Matthews, 1951, Clerk and Treas.	\$ 18.31
Ileene Matthews, 1952 " " "	18.87
Violet Parris, Auditor	6.00
F. I. Taylor, Selectman	40.71
Annie M. Esty, Tax Collector, 2 deeds	2.00
Annie M. Esty, Tax Collector, stamps	5.00
Annie M. Esty, expenses tax meeting	17.18
Ass'n. of N. H. Assessors, dues	2.00
Wheeler and Clark, rubber stamps	3.25
John C. Ray, Town Officers' Bonds	47.50
N. H. Tax Collectors' Ass'n., dues	3.00
Enterprise Press, notices	2.00
City and Town Clerks' Ass'n., dues	2.00
U. S. Auto and Truck Guide, 1952	7.00
Bucklands Flowers, P. Lavoie funeral	10.50
Brown and Saltmarsh, supplies	26.37
Sargent Bros., tax bills	10.35

Sentinel Printing Co., forms	4.00
F. J. Shores, recording, search and transfer fees	30.72
Total	<hr/> 256.76

Election and Registration:

Edythe M. Newton, Supervisor	45.10
Lillian Colby, Supervisor	44.90
E. E. Matthews, Supervisor	37.90
Annie M. Esty, Ballot Clerk	21.70
Flora Matthews, Ballot Clerk	21.70
Total	<hr/> 171.30

Miscellaneous:

Groton School District, 1952-3 appro.	4,799.00
B. W. Pulsifer, Treas., County tax	1,080.26
State of New Hampshire, Town Road Aid	195.62
Annie M. Esty, Col. taxes bought by town	312.47
Newfound Region C. of C., 1952 appro.	50.00
C. D. Matthews, mowing Town-house yard and cemetery	18.00
State of New Hampshire, Old Age Assistance	664.66
E. C. McClellan, Groceries, town poor	6.10
Grafton County Farm, Hospital care, Buskey	150.00
Flora Matthews, Treas., 1952 Library appro.	200.00
N. H. Elec. Corp., Town-house electricity	24.00
F. H. Colby, Town-house Janitor	10.00
Chas. Powden, Warden, Bristol Fire Dept., services	15.50
Hebron Fire Dept., services	5.00
E. E. Matthews, Fire Warden	20.92
W. S. Stevens, Bounties	4.50
Ileene Matthews, Vital Statistics	3.50

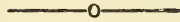
Ileene Matthews, Auto Permit fees	35.50
R. C. Hazelton Inc., new V plow and lift	847.00
Jones Auto Co., Truck axles	12.60
E. E. Matthews, Exp. driving truck to Hazeltons	13.20
Barnard's Garage, Truck repairs, supplies	502.06
Deming Chevrolet, Truck axles	27.96
John C. Ray, Truck insurance	52.97
State of New Hampshire, Head tax	373.38
Total	9,424.20

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North End Roads—Supervision of Fred Waldron

Fred Waidron, Labor	\$ 379.10
Fred Waldron, Shovels and picks	16.48
C. H. Tarr, Labor	57.30
C. H. Tarr, Team	54.30
C. H. Tarr, Gravel	5.55
Carl Bowles, Labor	64.30
Carl Bowles, Team	37.40
L. Bowles, Labor	153.20
Edgar McClellan, Labor	68.00
Edgar McClellan, Gasoline	21.40
E. E. Matthews Jr., Labor	68.00
Fred Goss, Labor	51.00
W. H. Roy, Labor	27.00
L. Bowles, Powder	2.00
A. Ashley, Gravel	3.60
Ben Foster, Blacksmith	3.50
Chase Grain Mill, Culverts	76.00
Total	1,088.13

ROAD AGENT'S REPORT



South End Road—Supervision of Perley Matthews

Perley Matthews, Labor	\$ 264.40
" " Truck	56.00
" " Bolts	.60
" " Rakes and teeth	3.66
" " Spikes	1.50
Ernest Matthews, Labor	55.00
E. E. Matthews Jr., Labor	44.00
Edgar McClellan, Labor	69.00
Edgar Mc Clellan, Gas and oil	45.22
Floyd Colby, Labor	175.00
Lewis Albert, Labor	16.00
Frank Matthews, Labor	20.00
Harold Matthews, Labor	4.00
Harold Matthews, Team	7.00
Carroll Matthews, Labor	39.00
Carroll Matthews, Tractor	30.00
Perley Matthews, Gravel	32.50
Homer Tarr, Labor	5.00
Vernon Matthews, Labor	4.00
Walter Merrill, Sand	4.20
Chase Grain Mill, Cement	12.25
R. S. Yeaton, Planks	66.53
Arnold Barnard, Cutting stringers	5.00
Merlin McCloud, Shovel	10.00
Blackton Inc., Cold patch	60.60
Tilton Sand and Gravel, Cold patch	65.84
Alpheus Woodward, Shovel	82.50
Total	1,178.30

Snow Removal—Supervision of E. E. Matthews:

E. E. Matthews, Labor	\$ 732.20
F. H. Colby, Labor	558.50
E. E. Matthews Jr., Labor	55.60
E. C. McClellan, Labor	13.00
E. C. McClellan, Gas	303.43
E. C. McClellan Auto to Plymouth	3.00
Norris Smith, Labor	5.00
F. E. Matthews, Labor	3.00
Edgar Albert, Labor	1.00
D. Matthews, Labor	3 00
Perley Matthews, Labor	23.10
Follansbee's, Wire	11.85
Bartlett's Garage, Repairs	2.50
Chase Grain Mill, Salt	12.70
Scott Machinery Co., Rental of plow	157.50
Town of Dorchester, Plowing	70.00
A. S. Woodward, Rental of bulldozer	72.00
Coll. of Internal Revenue, Withholding tax	10.40
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Total	2,037.78

Emergency Storm Repairs—North End Roads

Carl Bowles, Labor	\$ 4.00
Fred Waldron, Labor	18.00
David Tibbetts, Labor	1.50
C. H. Tarr, Labor	24.00
C. H. Tarr, Team	24.00
Floyd Colby, Labor	25.00
Lewis Albert, Labor	26.00
E. C. McClellan, Labor	26.00
E. C. McClellan, Gas	17.11
E. E. Matthews, Labor	14.00
E. E. Matthews Jr., Labor	3.00
Perley Matthews, Labor	20.00
Perley Mathews, Truck	14.00
A. Ashlev, Gravel	4 00
Chase Grain Mill, Culverts	50 00
	<hr/>
	270.61

Spectacle Pond Improvement—Supervision Special Committee

E. C. McClellan, Labor	\$ 105.00
Floyd Colby, Labor	67.00
Ernest Matthews, Jr., Labor	79.00
E. C. McClellan, Gas	12.80
E. E. Matthews, Labor	16.00
Harold Matthews, Horses	8.00
H. J. Follansbee, Spikes and lag screws	7.02
Alpheus Woodward, Shovel	16.00
R. S. Yeaton, Bridge planks	42.00
	<hr/>
	352.82

LIBRARY TREASURER'S REPORT

Receipts

Cash on hand January 1, 1952	\$ 5.02
Selectmen	200.00
Librarian	6.38
	<hr/>
Totals	211.40

Payments

Jan. 25, Zelma Watts, Salary	4.00
Mar. 13, Zelma Watts, Salary	10.00
Mar. 24, Life Magazine	7.27
Mar. 24, Readers Digest	10.00
Mar. 28, Roland Matthews, sawing wood	4.00
April 17, Zelma Watts	6.00
April 30, Joe Yeaton, slabs	5.00
June 21, Roland Matthews, Janitor's salary	9.50
June 25, Grolier Bookshop	4 95
July 2, Cooperative, lights	24.00
Oct. 4, Farm Bureau, insurance	7.00
Oct. 6, Floyd Colby, fixing roof	4.00
Oct. 8, Perley Matthews, getting slabs	3.00
Dec. 20, Personal Bookshop	3.31
Dec. 31, Personal Bookshop	19.36
Dec. 31, Agnes Lane, salary	66.00
Dec. 31, Roland Matthews, salary	7.00
Checkbook	2.00
Total Payments	196.39
Cash on hand, end of year	15.01
	<hr/>
Totals	211.40

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Books owned January 1, 1952	1914
Books bought by Town	19
Books added by gifts	18
Books from Bookmobile	200
State reports etc.	6

Services

Volumns of fiction lent	162
Volumns of non-fiction lent	388
Volumns of juvenile fiction lent	375

Total circulation	925
New borrowers	7
Regular borrowers	10
School children	12

Librarian's Cash Statement

Receipts

Town appropriation for 1951	\$ 15.00
Assistant Librarian33
Miss Marjorie Warner	10.00
Fines50
Butternuts sold50
Book sold25
Total	26.64

Expenditures

Back Book bill	7.82
Magazine subscriptions	7.58
Books, checks, postage	9.15
Paid into treasury	2.09
Total	26.64

REPORT OF THE TRUST FUNDS OF THE TOWN OF GROTON, FISCAL YEAR ENDED DEC. 31, 1952

DATE OF CREATION	TRUST FUNDS PURPOSE OF CREATION	HOW INVESTED State character and rate of return for each investment State also if funds were borrowed or used for city or town purposes and indicate whether notes have been used as required by Chapter 51, Section 23 Revised Laws	AMOUNT OF PRINCIPAL INT.	Balance of Income on hand at Beginning of Year		Income Expended During Year		Balance of Income on Hand at end of Year
				Rate of	at	Year	Year	
George W. Hall Fund		Dep. Plymouth Savings Bank	\$ 26.00	2%	\$ 27.78	1.33		29.11
Care of Hall lot in Union Cem'ty.	George W. Hall	U. S. Savings Bond F Series	74.00					
Cyrus Blood Fund		Dep. Plymouth Savings Bank	13.00	2%	12.14	.63		12.77
Care of lot in Rolfe Hill Cemetery	Cyrus Blood	U. S. Savings Bond F Series	37.00					
Town of Groton Fund for Post War Project		Dep. Plymouth Savings Bank	485.27	2%	86.81	14.30		101.11
		Totals	\$635.27		126.73	16.26		142.99

This is to certify that the information contained in this report is complete and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief Frederick I. Taylor, Trustee
January 17, 1952

OFFICIAL REPORTS

Groton School District



Year Ending June 30, 1952

GROTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL DIRECTORY

District Officers

Mrs. Agnes A. Lane Moderator
 Mrs. Ileene A. Matthews Treasurer
 Mrs. Ileene A. Matthews Clerk
 Mrs. Violet Parris Auditor

School Board

Mrs. Yvonne Stevens Term expires 1953
 Mrs. Annie Esty Term expires 1954
 Mrs. Flora Matthews .. Term expires 1955

Teacher

Mrs. Ida Sirrine

Superintendent of Schools

C. Maurice Gray

School Nurse

Mrs. Anna Lovett, R. N.

FINANCIAL REPORT
OF
SCHOOL TREASURER

For Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1952

Summary

Cash on hand June 30, 1951	\$ 197.85
Received from Selectmen	5,687.86
Received from all other sources	12.00
Total Receipts	5,699.86
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Total Amount Available for fiscal year	5,897.71
Less School Board orders paid	5,723.61
Balance on hand June 30, 1952	174.10
Heene A. Matthews, Treasurer	

SCHOOL BOARD'S ESTIMATE

Estimated Balance	\$ 1,800.00
Total Receipts	1,800.00
DISTRICT ASSESSMENT	4,686.38
<hr/>	
TOTAL	6,486.38

SCHOOL BOARD'S REPORT

Receipts

Received from Selectmen, appropriation \$	5,687.86
Received from Edgar McClellan, wood	12.00
	<hr/>
Total Receipts	5,699.86
Cash on hand as of June 30, 1951	197.85
	<hr/>
Grand Total	\$ 5,897.71

DETAILED STATEMENT OF PAYMENTS

Salaries of District Officers:

Annie Esty, School Board and Census	\$ 35.00
Yvonne Stevens, School Board	30.00
Flora Matthews, School Board	30.00
Violet Parris, Auditor	5.60
Ileene Matthews, Clerk and Treasurer	30.00
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	130.60

Superintendent's Salary:

Supervisory Union No. 4	122.66
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Per Capita Tax:

N. H. State Treasurer	36.00
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Expenses of Administration:

Supervisory Union No. 4, Clerk and Office exp.	64.17
The Enterprise Press, Notices	3.00
The Record Print, Programs	3.50
Flora Braley, Trip to Canaan	2.00
Flora Matthews, Expenses	4.79
Brown and Saltmarsh, Inc., Treasurers book	10.00
Harold Matthews, Trip to Woodsville	8.00
Yvonne Stevens, expenses	9.45
Annie Esty, Expenses	1.50
Ileene Matthews, Postage	.18
First National Bank, Bristol, Service charges	3.35
	<hr/>
	109.94

Teacher's Salary:

Ida Sirrine	1,520.10
Collector of Internal Revenue	135.00
N. H. Teachers' Retirement System	182.91
	<hr/>
	1,838.01

Text Books:

Laidlaw Brothers	1.08
Scott, Foresman & Co	6.88
Noble & Noble Publishers, Inc.	3.24
Supervisory Union No. 4	1.08
Houghton Mifflin Co.	4.76
L. W. Singer Co.	3.23
American Book Co.	3.21
The Grolier Society	10.50
Row, Peterson & Co	.86
Ginn & Co.	8.60
Beckley Cardy Co.	4.83
	<hr/>
	48.27

Scholars' Supplies:

J. L. Hammett Co.	21.04
Milton Bradley Co.	34.48
Row, Peterson & Co.	1.26
Continental Press	1.10
Supervisory Union No. 4, Tests	1.49
White River Paper Co.	12.93
	<hr/>
	72.30

Janitor Service:

Ida Sirrine	25.00
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Fuel:

Charles A. Carr Co.	170.95
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Water, Light & Janitor Supplies:

J. L. Hammett Co.	7.02
Ida Sirrine, Bulbs	.44
N. H. Electric Cooperative, Inc	30.49
	<hr/>
	37.95

Minor Repairs and Expenses:

Lena Matthews, Cleaning	10.40
Floyd Colby, Recharging toilets	4.00
Milton Bradley Co., Chemicals for toilets	17.95
Flora Matthews, Expenses	.50
Edgar Albert, Cleaning cellar	7.50
Greenwood Plumbing Co., Ex. w'k. on furnace	67.50
H. J. Follansbee Co., Incinerator	6.95
	<hr/>
	114.80

Medical Inspection:

Anna Lovett, R. N., Two years salary	120.00
N. H. Teachers' Retirement System.	
Nurses' retirement	6.37
	<hr/>
	126.37

Transportation of Pupils:

Frederick I. Taylor	900.00
Floyd Colby, Transportation of Floyd, Jr.	14.00
Denis Matthews, " " "	48.00
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	962.00

High School Tuition:

Plymouth School District	1,140.97
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Elementary School Tuition:

Dorchester School District	190.00
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Other Special Activities:

Granville F. Wheeler, Flowers for graduation	3.00
Yvonne Stevens, Expenses of school trip	23.25
Edgar C. McClellan, Gasoline for school trip	6.39

Retirement:

	32.64
N. H. Teachers' Retirement System	153.15
Insurance and Other Fixed Charges:	
John C. Ray, Insurance and Treasurers bond	17.00
New Equipment:	
Greenwood Plumbing Co., Power burner	395.00
<hr/>	
Total Expenditures	\$ 5,723.61

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the information contained in this report was taken from official reports and is complete and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief. The accounts are kept in accordance with Section 24 of Chapter 82 of the revised Laws of New Hampshire 1942 and upon forms prescribed by the State Tax Commission.

YVONNE STEVENS,
ANNIE ESTY,
FLORA MATTHEWS,

School Board

GROTON SCHOOL CALENDAR

1953-1954

Term Opens	Term Closes
September 8	December 18
January 4	February 19
March 1	April 16
April 27, Tuesday (Mon. Fast Day)	

Close completion 180 days

Days out: Plymouth Fair, 1 day; Thanksgiving two days, single session on November 25; Memorial Day May 31.

Total number of days required by State Board is 180 including three for institutes and conventions, and up to five for workshops.

Pupils may enter the first grade provided they are six before January 1.

Vaccination is required by state law unless child has written excuse from Doctor.

Enrollment by Grades

Grade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Totals
1951-52.	1	2	1	1	3	0	3	0	11
1952-53	1	2	1	1	1	2	0	3	11

District Totals

	Av. Att'd.	Av. Abs.	Av. Memb.	% Att'd
1951-52	10.2	.8	11	92.7
1952-53 (Dec.)	10.5	.8	11.3	93.1

Tuition Pupils

Plymouth High School	Rate \$227.
Floyd Colby, Jr.	Grade 10
Robert C. Tibbetts	Grade 10
Theresa Latulippe	Grade 11
June White	Grade 11
Dorchester Elemetary School	Rate \$108.
Norma Waldron	Grade 5

COMPARATIVE SCHOOL BUDGETS

EXPENDITURES	Expenditures 1951-1952.	Adopted Budget 1952-1953.	Estimated Expenditures for 1952-1953.	Estimated Budget for 1953-1954
Administration:				
Salaries of District Officers \$	136.52	135.00	135.00	135.00
Supt.'s salary (local share)	122.66	134.85	134.85	143.64
Tax, State wide Supervision	36.00	32.00	32.00	36.00
Salaries of Adm. Personnel	58.52	51.15	51.15	53.20
Supplies and Expenses	51.42	65.00	65.00	65.00
Instruction:				
Teachers salary	1,838.01	1,800.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Books and Other Aids	48.27	40.00	40.00	40.00
Scholars Supplies	72.30	35.00	35.00	35.00
Supplies and Other Expenses		10.00	10.00	10.00
Operation of School Plant:				
Salary of janitor	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00
Fuel or heat	170.95	130.00	170.00	200.00
Water, light and supplies	37.95	70.00	70.00	70.00
Maintenance School Plt.:				
Repairs and replacements	114.80	50.00	50.00	150.00
Auxiliary Activities:				
Health Supervision	120.00	60.00	60.00	60.00
Transportation	962.00	900.00	900.00	1,150.00
Tuition, High	1,140.97	1,000.00	908.00	1,750.00
Tuition, Elementary	190.00	100.00	120.00	120.00
Special Activities	32.64	25.00	25.00	35.00
Fixed Charges:				
Teachers Retirement	153.60	125.00	130.00	130.00
Insurance, bonds, etc.	17.00	11.00	11.00	78.54
Capital Outlay:				
Additions and Improvements				11.00
CONTINGENCY FUND				200.00
TOTAL CURRENT EXPENSES	5,328.61	4,799.00	4,972.00	6,486.38
New Equipment (Capital Outlay)	395.00	1,800.00		
Total Expenditures	5,723.61	6,599.00	4,972.00	6,486.38

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Now that there is a lull in material gains in the form of buildings it might be well for us to take "time out", catch our breath for a second, and review what we believe are the basic aims of education in Supervisory Union No. 4, what has been done, and what might be done. We should preface this by saying that there is wide disagreement in the basic educational philosophies of those engaged in education and real differences in operating methods. Rather than be alarmed about this we should consider it a very wholesome occurrence for when people cease to disagree intelligently democracy disappears. The preservation of democracy and all it signifies is a primary aim of our education. We must watch attempts under the guise of democracy to ferment unreasonable differences of opinion in order that subversive elements may assume command once these differences have so weakened our morale that internal conquest becomes easy. There are many ways of doing this.

We spend most of our efforts in this school union teaching fundamentals in the tool subjects in elementary with much emphasis on reading skills. In spite of contrary opinion we go on record as saying that we are doing a good job as a whole, and we have many excellent results. Every year some nationally standardized achievement tests are given, the Metropolitan last year. In only one subject taking the nine towns together did we have an average score below national standards. That was fifth grade spelling with .2 of a year below, largely due to one very poor grade in a small school. Our average in reading was .2 to a full grade above some individual grades being two to three grades above. To cite more would serve little purpose but to summarize let us say we know where we stand and others guess about it. Furthermore we take conscious steps to

improve the weak spots.

Teaching fundamentals and tool subjects is, however, only one aim of education whose real object is to teach the individual to live a better life in the world of today and tomorrow. It is when we get into this problem that we get into serious differences. How should we teach democratic living? Let the pupils run the school? Some might say "yes, to a large degree." I happen to say, "No." This illustrates the point I believe. Hitting at this type of thing from another angle we may raise the question: "How much individual help does the child receive in school." We all believe this to be important today. Can we do it with a first grade of forty babies? Should we teach pupils to work and play together? Most people would say yes but might not agree that square dancing is a good method. "Should a child be given aid to like good music and art?" Yes would be given most of the time. How well this can be done without teachers skilled in teaching appreciation of fine things, in part by actual participation? "Should religion be taught in schools?" will start a massacre among otherwise intelligent people. Certain it is that much Christian living can be, and is being, taught by teachers everyday without teaching any creed. This could go on forever but lets end this by asking ourselves how well we are doing in teaching each individual child all he can absorb in all things he may need as a good citizen living an enriched life in a world where a boy may be required to swap deer hunting in the hills of New Hampshire for a different quarry in hills on the other side of the world. Is the education of the rural school of 50 years ago and the high school curriculum of that time, "More Latin and less Greek", good enough or is the type of education of previous generations to be held responsible for the problems facing the children of today?

Only two of my nine towns have the services of a music supervisor, none has an art instructor, only one has expert handwriting supervision, none has a kindergarten, none has a physical education instructor, and none has a specialist in remedial reading. There is no thought of complaint in the above statement but rather proof of the fact that we are offering barely the most minimum education possible. I believe the pupils, your children, could profit by some of these which will be found in really modern schools where the cost of education is not borne completely—practically speaking—by the property tax.

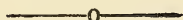
Any school administrator must be an idealist to keep really alive but he must be practical too. Education costs money taking the bigger part of the tax assessment in most cases in spite of our low salaries to teachers. A school executive must be practical in the situation he faces. An enriched course of study is apt to mean more money, and so do flush toilets, and school lunch programs. I happen to believe that state aid must be given in quantities sufficient so that the property tax assessment may be lowered while improving educational opportunities for our children. If and when this is done it must be done in such manner that we can know in advance how much each district will receive. It takes more courage than we have to ask for expensive items knowing the communities as we do. We could make plans programmed over a period of years if we were sure of state aid of sufficient amounts. No one is hurt by the present amounts of aid cut to 48% due to lack of state funds except the children of the state, and I'm particularly interested in those of my nine towns. As long as legislative funds for state aid are voted after school budgets are passed I

can not recommend to local boards action to improve our educational system if it involves one penny of state aid. We'll use what we get to reduce the property tax assessment.

The \$1,800 raised at the special school district meeting is being estimated at this moment as a balance for the ensuing year. This was a special appropriation, has not been spent, and must be so shown. before July 1, 1953 the tax assessment will be that It will reduce the tax assessment by \$1,800. If spent much more. Any balance in a school budget loses its identity at the end of the year. If desired, by a special article in the warrant, this money could be set aside as a capital reserve fund for a particular purpose, be kept indefinitely, and spent only for the specified purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

C. MAURICE GRAY, Supt.



AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATE

(Required by the State Board of Education from all State Aided Districts.)

This is to certify that I have examined the books, vouchers, bank statements and other financial records of the treasurer of the school district of Groton of which the above is a true summary for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1952 and find them correct in all respects.

Violet G. Parris, Auditor

VITAL STATISTICS

MARRIAGES

In Lincoln, N. H., May 9, 1952, by Rev. Edmund Guay, Carroll Denis Matthews of Groton, N. H., son of Carroll G. and Ileene A. Matthews, of Groton N. H., to Verna Marie Corbeil of North Woodstock, N. H., daughter of J. Henry and Roseanna C. Corbeil, of North Woodstock, N. H.

BIRTHS

In Franklin, N. H., September 8, 1952. to Frederick I. and Ruth E. Taylor, of Groton, N. H., a son, Bruce Alan.

DEATHS

In Plymouth, N. H., February 7, 1952, Peter Lavoie, of Groton, N. H., aged 74 years.

In Haverhill, N. H., April 9, 1952, William Buskey, of Groton, N. H.

In Plymouth, N. H., August 1, 1952, Mary Josephine Albert, of Groton, N. H., aged 25 years.

I hereby certify that the above records are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

ILEENE A. MATTHEWS,

Town Clerk

